

AWAITING ADOPTION OF
AGREEMENT.

Canadian Fishermen
Expect Great Benefits
From Free Fish.

United States Consul Deedmeyer at
Charlottetown, P. E. I., makes the fol-
lowing interesting report:

"The fishermen of Prince Edward Island and the other maritime Provinces are anxiously waiting for the adoption of the pending American-Canadian reciprocity agreement, under the terms of which all fish and shellfish, except sardines and other fish preserved in oil, caught in Canadian waters will be admitted into the United States free of duty.

"The value of the Canadian fisheries in the last fiscal year was \$29,629,169. The fishing fleets of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, according to the last official reports, consisted of 26,505 boats and 1380 vessels, of which Nova Scotia is credited with 16,887, New Brunswick 8926, and Prince Edward Island 2072. Less than 20% of this fleet is now provided with motor power.

Plan Use of More Gasoline Motors.

"As soon as the American markets are free to Canadian fish practically the entire fleet will be equipped, in anticipation of a most profitable business, with gasoline motors. A number of American manufacturers of gasoline motors maintain agencies in Prince Edward Island, and notwithstanding the present Canadian tariff duty they have made a good market for them. The superiority of American motors over all others is impressively brought home to the buyers by the advertised claims of other manufacturers that their motors are 'as good as the American.'

"Gasoline motors are being introduced on the farms and in small manufacturing establishments. According to the last Dominion census there were 107,630 farmers in the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, all of whom own the farms which they till, except 2692 who are lessees. When the agricultural and animal products of Canada enter, to the most part, the markets of the United States free of duty, the purchasing power of these farmers will at once increase by 20%. The gasoline motor will displace on the farm the windmill, animal power, and the steam engine, now used in pumping water, thrashing and crushing grains, cutting wood, and for many other purposes."

March 2.

HADDOCKERS HAD
GOOD STOCKS.CREWS OF THREE VESSELS
SHARED FINELY ON RE-
CENT TRIPS.

The gasoline auxiliary sch. Benjamin A. Smith, Capt. George Hodson, made the splendid stock of \$2850 as the result of her first trip, haddocking, this season, the crew sharing \$59.75 clear. This is one of the very largest stocks made in the winter haddock fishery this season.

Sch. Lizzie M. Stanley, Capt. Joshua W. Stanley, stocked \$2730 as the result of her recent haddock trip, the crew sharing \$65 clear. Capt. Stanley, who is, and has been for years, one of the leaders in the fresh fishing business, has rolled up a winter's work equalled by few, and it is noteworthy that about all his fares have been landed at this port. Business man that he is, as well as great fisherman, he would not have kept on coming here unless things were "right," which goes to show that fresh fish can be handled to advantage here, to the advantage of the catcher as well as the shipper.

Sch. Rex, Capt. John Grady, stocked \$2346 as the result of her recent haddock trip, the crew sharing \$50.19 clear.

March 2.

PRICES DROP ON
OFF SHORE FISH.

YESTERDAY'S FIGURES ARE,
HOWEVER, WELL SUSTAINED
ON SHORE TRIPS.

Some of the market boats got a set yesterday a number of them striking good hauls, and in consequence although less than 500,000 pounds of fish were in T dock altogether this morning, prices on off shore goods were put on the toboggan and sliced down a great big lot from yesterday's fine figures.

In all there were 27 trips and of these, all but six were market boats with fares ranging from 500 pounds to 18,000 pounds.

The off shore trips run from 37,000 to 68,000 pounds, the big sch. Regina heading the list. The steam trawler Foam brought in 45,000 pounds and sch. Mary B. Greer usually one of the off shore fleet, had her second off shore craft her skipper evidently having a spot of his own somewhere.

Off shore haddock which yesterday sold for \$3.50 and \$3.75, this morning brought \$2.25 and \$2.50, while shore haddock sold as high as \$3.75. Large cod were from \$4 to \$5 and hake \$3.75 to \$4. Pollock brought \$4.

Boston Arrivals.

The receipts and prices in detail are:

Sch. Regina, 50,000 haddock, 18,000 cod.
Sch. Richard, 50,000 haddock, 13,000 cod.
Sch. Raymah, 45,000 haddock, 7000 cod.
Sch. Metamora, 45,000 haddock, 7000 cod.
Sch. Leo, 6000 haddock, 1500 cod, 500 pollock.
Sch. Mattakesett, 15,000 haddock, 700 cod.
Sch. Pontiac, 13,000 haddock, 2000 cod.
Sch. Athena, 9000 haddock, 1500 cod.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 12,000 haddock 1600 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Annie Perry, 24,000 haddock, 1500 cod.
Sch. Mary Edith, 3500 haddock, 700 cod, 1500 hake.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney, 6000 haddock.
Sch. Gladys and Nellie, 7000 haddock.
Sch. Buema, 8000 haddock, 500 cod, 300 hake.
Sch. Yankee, 4500 haddock, 1400 cod.
Sch. Harriet, 8000 haddock, 400 cod.
Sch. Flora J. Sears, 6000 haddock, 100 cod.
Sch. Motor, 1000 haddock, 1100 cod, 600 cusk.
Sch. W. H. Reed, 500 cod.
Sch. Nettle, 600 cod.
Sch. Nautilus, 1000 cod.
Steamer Foam, 43,000 haddock, 2000 cod.

Sch. Natalie J. Nelson, 15,000 haddock, 2400 cod.
Sch. Clara G. Silva 7000 haddock, 500 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Mary B. Greer, 25,000 haddock, 12,000 cod.
Sch. Mary Emerson, 2600 cod.
Sch. Margaret McKenzie 1000 cod.
Off shore haddock, \$2.25 to \$2.50 per cwt.; shore haddock, \$2.50 to \$3.75; large cod, \$4 to \$5; market cod, \$3.50 to \$4.50; hake \$3.75 to \$4; pollock, \$4.

Booth Fisheries Reorganization.

Reorganization plans of the Booth Fisheries Company, known as the "fish trust" before its failure two years or more ago, probably will be announced the latter part of this week. It is stated that arrangements have been made for the sale of \$5,000,000 six per cent. first mortgage bonds, of which \$4,000,000 is to be issued at once. A portion of the proceeds will be used, it is said, for the purchase of the Northern Fisheries Company, a salmon handling concern.

The Booth Fisheries company has an office and a number of stockholders in Boston, with an office on T wharf. The company has several other agencies in New England and in the Maritime Provinces.

Incoming Vessels Badly Iced Up.

Most of the vessels which arrived at Boston yesterday morning were considerably iced up, having encountered a stiff and cold northwester on the passage home from Georges. Sch. Robert and Arthur reported having her jib blown away.

Will Go Salt Bank Trawling.

Capt. Hiram Forbes is fitting sch. Annie M. Parker for a salt bank trawl codfishing trip.

Capt. Vincent Nelson will fit sch. Senator Gardner for a salt bank codfishing trip.

March 2.

MORE HADDOCK
TRIPS LANDED.

SCH. JOHN HAYS HAMMOND
BRINGS HALIBUT HERE IN-
STEAD OF PORTLAND.

The fine haddock trips still continue to come here. Yesterday afternoon schs. Elsie, Capt. Thomas Downey, shot in with 60,000 pounds and this morning sold her fare to the Gloucester Fresh Fish Company at the highest Boston figure.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, Capt. Fred Thompson, came in this morning from a halibut trip to Quero Bank with 12,000 pounds of halibut, 2000 pounds of salt fish and 4000 or 5000 pounds of fresh fish. The craft has been up against hard weather ever since she went out from here January 27, encountering a regular succession of heavy gales and bad weather, which made it impossible to get a set for weeks at a time. On the last end he struck a few fish and came along with them.

Capt. Thompson, who has given the Portland market a pretty good try all last season, decided to come here this trip, and it looks as though he made no mistake, for his trip sold to the New England Fish Company at 13 1-4 cents per pound for white and 11 cents for gray.

Yesterday afternoon three of the netting steamers came in with fair trips, mostly pollock the first they have had for quite a while.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Elsie, Georges, 60,000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. John Hays Hammond, Quero Bank, 12,000 lbs. halibut, 2000 lbs. salt fish, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Quoddy, shore, 6500 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Nomad shore, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.
Steamer Prince Olaf, shore, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.
Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, via Boston.
Sch. Aspinet, shore.
Sch. Matthew S. Greer, shore.
Sch. Jeanette, shore.
Sch. Mary E. Silveira, shore.
Sch. Edith Silveira, shore.
Sch. Ethel B. Penney, shore.
Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.
Sch. Reliance, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Arthur D. Story, Georges.
Sch. William H. Moody, Georges.
Sch. Blanche, salt trawling.
Sch. Theodore Roosevelt, salt trawling.
Sch. Lucinda I. Lowell, salt trawling.
Sch. Premier, salt trawling.
Sch. Ingomar, haddocking.
Sch. Lizzie M. Stanley, haddocking.
Sch. Emily Cooney, haddocking.
Sch. A. C. Newhall, haddocking.

Today's Fish Market.

Georges handline salt cod, \$5.75 for large and \$5.50 for medium.
Bank halibut, 13 1/4 cts. per lb. for white and 11 cts. for gray, heads off.
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.
Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.
Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.
Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.
Splitting prices for fresh fish:
Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium, \$1.30; snappers 50c.
Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

March 2.

Norway Winter Fishery a Failure.

The winter fishery at Norway, owing to tempestuous weather, was a failure. At Finmark they caught 1,100,000 bacalao and 500,000 stockfish, against 800,000 bacalao and 500,000 stockfish in 1909. At Lofoten they caught 300,000 bacalao and 40,000 stockfish, against 800,000 bacalao and 1,000,000 stockfish in 1909.

The Norwegian fishery has commenced, but bad weather all last month almost entirely prevented the fishing boats putting to sea, so the quantity caught is not worth mentioning. The size this year seems to be large and the fish fleshy.

March 2.

JANUARY FISH RECEIPTS.

LARGELY EXCEEDED THOSE FOR
THE SAME MONTH FOR THE
PAST TWO YEARS.

Secretary Freeman of the Board of Trade has completed the tabulation of the figures showing the fish receipts at this port for January of this year, and has compiled a comparative table showing the receipts of that month with the receipts for January of 1910 and 1909.

The showing is a gratifying one, for it brings out the pleasing fact that the catch of ground fish for the initial month of this year is a million pounds ahead of the starting month of 1910 and over half a million pounds in the lead of the same month in 1909.

Particularly is the increase noticeable in the lines of salt cod and fresh haddock, the swelling of the receipts of the latter kind of fish indicating that the fresh fish business at this port is not gone by or dead, but on the other hand, shows a good healthy tone and holds out hope of becoming even more robust next season.

The receipts of each year in detail are:

	1911	1910	1909
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Salt cod	818,191	214,890	238,200
Fresh cod	102,233	140,500	357,000
Total cod	920,424	354,390	595,200
Fresh halibut	46,100	57,557	157,700
Fresh haddock	791,415		
Salt haddock	12,865		
Total haddock	804,280	303,900	334,300
Fresh hake	11,162		
Salt hake	7,160		
Total hake	18,322	18,700	15,400
Fresh cusk	5,620		
Salt cusk	2,810		
Total cusk	8,430	9,700	32,400
Fresh pollock	52,310		
Salt pollock	30,198		
Total pollock	82,508	159,200	69,800
Fresh'd halibut	389	1,260	4,685
Total	1,880,453	885,617	1,209,485
	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels
Salt herring*	18,148	23,538	5,448
Frozen herring	10,705	10,326	15,785
	Quintals	Quintals	Quintals
Cured fish	1,064		1,900

*Includes pickled herring.

March 2.

Sch. Admiral Dewey Sailed from Boston.

The new owner of sch. Admiral Dewey, recently sold from this port to Newfoundland parties, and which went to Boston to load and has been held up from securing a British register because the Captain had not the necessary papers to prove himself a British subject, arrived at Boston yesterday with the necessary papers and straightened things out before the British council. The craft was cleared accordingly and sailed yesterday for her new home port, carrying a general cargo.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Arkona was at Liverpool, N. S., on Monday.

Sch. Paragon, Capt. William Hermon, of this port, one of the fresh halibut fleet, put in at Halifax, N. S., Monday to refit. The vessel had been out quite a while and encountered very hard weather.

Sch. Mystery was at Yarmouth, N. S., on Monday.

Handliners Spoken.

Capt. George Hodsdon of sch. Benjamin A. Smith reports speaking the handliners Mary A. Gleason and Jubilee on Brown's bank recently.

March 3.

Increasing Portland Cold Storage Plant.

New freezing coils are being installed in the Portland Cold Storage plant on Central wharf, the old ones, which have been in use for five years, have rusted badly, advantage being taken of the present time, when there is nothing doing in the freezing line, to make the change.

Fishermen Arriving.

Quite a number of men who will engage in fishing from this port the coming season on some of the salt bankers, arrived here yesterday.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Paragon cleared from Halifax, N. S., Tuesday, for the fishing grounds.

March 3.

HERRING CATCH 1,500,000,000 LBS.

Value of World's Yield Over Twenty-five Million Dollars.

"Schools of herring covering six square miles and even larger deep water areas are on record," says A. M. Payne in the Canadian Grocer. "Huxley, universally admitted as one of the foremost authorities during his life-time, estimated that there are scores of such schools in the North Atlantic, any single one of which would supply the whole world's consumption at any given time.

"Approximate estimates of the world's catch can be designated in figures for ordinary comprehension, but the individual numbers of these fish resources of the sea defy computation. Imagination, however, yields to actual facts, within living memory.

Beach Strewn With Herring at Crail.

Near the village of Crail, on the east coast of Fife, as narrated in the British Naturalist, a strong southeast gale strewed the beach for miles with banks of herring, several feet high. Outside the town limits, the people took them in baskets as they pleased. In Crail, the town crier proclaimed that 'Caller Herring,' i. e., herring fresh out of the sea, might be had 40 for a penny. As the tide rose the fish accumulated so rapidly that the crier's note was changed to a shilling a cartload. Successive waves, however, soon led the crier to shout that they could be taken gratis. When the waters did ebb, the corporation offered a shilling reward for every cartload removed. The fish were in prime condition, barely dead. In spite of the use of every grain of salt in the town and neighborhood, not a thousandth part of the mass was saved.

"It may be argued that half a century's incessant fishing must have depleted nature's supply, and that such a lavish sacrifice of valuable food could not be witnessed in the present day. Although the Crail incident was in the nature of a revelation, somewhat similar experiences have occurred on our coasts, when schools of fish have been driven shorewards in such immense numbers as to overtax every modern method of securing nature's bounties within immediate reach. Estimates are, of course, largely conjectural, but economic students of repute merit the credit of definite scientific research. The United States pamphlet by Hugh M. Smith, previously referred to estimated the annual herring catch of the world in 1903 at a billion and a half

pounds, valued at twenty-five and a quarter million dollars. Some regard this estimate as under the mark.

"The point intended to be proved being conceded that the supply of herring in the North Atlantic is practically inexhaustible, the question arises as to their frequent disappearance from former haunts, on both sides of the ocean. Various reasons are advanced, among other supposed causes, naval guns and torpedo practice, fog and siren signals, submarine bells, etc., the noise and disturbance of lobster fishing, unusual prevalence of offshore gales, continuous unfavorable weather conditions, steam trawling, diminution of accustomed food from unknown changes in nature's ordinary course, forcing the herring farther and farther into deep water, and resulting in more capricious dashes for the shore at spawning time.

"A recent German commission to study the natural history of the Baltic, came to the conclusion that

Herring Live in the Deep Water Off the Coast

which they approach periodically, swimming in separate schools and moving independently and spawning at different localities at various seasons.

"The herring is a migratory fish and its movements are so complicated that much mystery still baffles the scientists, the abundance of the fish at former resorts varying from year to year. Within the last few years, vast schools have appeared on the south coast of Sweden after they had deserted that region for seventy years.

"Artificial fertilization of herring ova had been easily affected in hatcheries, but no widespread efforts at propagation have ever been carried out, simply because it has never yet

been demonstrated that the supply has anywhere continuously diminished. The natural fertility of productivity has been sufficient to overcome the yearly increasing drain of the fisheries and the still greater destruction due to the hordes of 'big fish eating little fish,' porpoises, shark, dog-fish, in fact, nearly every species of larger fish, with even the gulls following the schools to prey upon them.

"Although seasons may vary from causes beyond human control, the time is coming when the Nova Scotia fisherman, with improved methods and adequate government administration, will double, treble, or perchance quadruple the herring fishery on our coasts."

March 3.

ONLY NINE FARES! AT T WHARF.

FISH PRICES IN CONSEQUENCE MADE MARKED ADVANCE FROM YESTERDAY.

There were but nine fares at T wharf this morning, and six of these aggregated only about 40,000 pounds, so, as was to be expected, prices advanced somewhat and things took on a more rosy tinge than yesterday or the fish catchers.

Three of the off-shore fleet came long just in time to get the advantage of the raise. Sch. Cynthia, Capt. Geoffrey Thomas, has a fine fare, 40,000 pounds of haddock and 22,000 pounds of cod, the largest amount of the latter fish in any one trip thus far this season. Schs. John J. Fallon and Virginia also have catches which will pay well.

Off-shore haddock sold at from \$2.35 to \$2.75 and shore stock at \$4 and \$4.50. Large cod went for \$5.10 and \$6, hake at \$5 and \$7, and pollock brought \$4.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:

Sch. Rose Standish, 2000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Virginia, 45,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Mabel Bryson 9000 haddock, 1500 cod.

Sch. Ida S. Brooks, 9000 haddock, 700 cod.

Sch. Galatea, 3500 haddock, 1100 cod, 1200 hake.

Sch. Columbia, 1200 cod.

Sch. Cynthia, 40,000 haddock, 22,000 cod.

Sch. John J. Fallon 49,000 haddock, 12,000 cod.

Sch. Tecumseh, 3500 haddock, 1500 cod.

Off-shore haddock \$2.35 to \$2.75 per cwt.; shore haddock, \$4 to \$4.50; large cod, \$5.10 to \$6; market cod, \$4 to \$4.75; pollock, \$4; hake, \$5 to \$7.

St. John's, N. F., Fish Supply.

The "Trade Review" of St. John's, N. F., says:

"Stocks of fish held in the city stores are growing beautifully less, and are now lower than they have been at this season within the memory of the present generation. They do not total more than 125,000 quintals and there will be a respectable hole made in this during next month, if weather is anything like favorable for handling. As is usual at this season of the year, there are no transactions between merchant and fishermen, but a part cargo of damp fish sold at auction a few days ago fetched \$5.90 per quintal. The stuff was not only damp, but it was 'poor in the run,' and, relatively, it meant about \$7.50 for a good article of prime merchantable Madeira. This transaction is a pretty accurate pointer as to how the fish market stands at present."

Fulton Fish Market Notes.

There seems to be a difference of opinion among the wholesale commission fish dealers as to the amount of business that will be done during the Lenten season. Some feel that there will be a rush, while others hold that the fish-eating season will have little effect upon the market. The impression is general that fish will not be higher than it is at this time, and many hold that prices will be lower. In nearly all grades of fancy fish prices are now high. With more stock coming to market in anticipation of a Lenten demand prices ought to be lower.

Groundfish prices are about as low as can be expected at this time, owing to the light catches being made.

The smacks arriving last week were seven in number with less than 5500 codfish. There was a large supply from the east and a few fish from Long Island. Steak fish sold at 6 to 8 cents and market cod at 4 to 4 1/2 cents.

There were no changes in prices of eels.

Flounders were in fair supply and sold at 4 to 6 cents.

Haddock was plentiful and cheap, 4 cents being the top price.

There were five carloads of western white halibut. It sold at 11 to 12 cents. Eastern white halibut brought as high as 18 cents the latter part of the week. During the early part of the week 13 to 14 cents was the quotation.

There were no hake in the market.—New York Fishing Gazette.

Maine Herring Interests Reach Agreement.

There will be no herring war.

That was the report received by some of the dealers in Portland Tuesday afternoon from Augusta where several Portland men were in conference with the representatives of the weirmen from the eastern part of the state.

Though no definite information on the subject has been received, it is understood that an agreement has been reached between the seiners and the weirmen, but this agreement is somewhat different from the one first entered into. Instead of allowing seining only west of White head off Rockland, as was originally planned, it will permit it somewhat farther to the eastward as there are seiners living in that section that wish to be accommodated. If this agreement stands, then the weirmen will still have their weirs in the eastern waters of the state without trouble from the seiners while the seiners and weirmen will have to continue in company in the western waters and especially around Casco bay. This is all the Portland men have wanted and they seem to have won their point.

Famine in Lobsters.

Lobsters are now selling in Boston at prices higher than for a long time, owing to scarcity. The local wholesale market is practically empty, save for what remains of three barrels of the Portland product which came within two days, and 19,000 pounds which came yesterday from Yarmouth, N. S., on the steamer Boston, a small shipment. These probably will not reach the market until today, and then most likely at increased prices.

New York, where the demand is even greater, is feeling the scarcity keenly, probably more so than Boston. Merchants there get most of their supply through Boston, but recently they have been going to the fountain head, so to speak.

Wholesale prices in Boston yesterday were: Large live, 30 cents per pound; large boiled, 34 cents; live chickens, 24 cents and boiled chicken 26 cents. Retailers were asking 40 cents a pound. The prices, however, are more or less merely quotations.

The scarcity is owing to the ice, which prevents working of the pounds and pots. It is expected, however, that within a short time, perhaps a week or two, the supply will be more plentiful.

Maine Herring Legislation.

Wednesday Jas. E. Pool of the Portland Cold Storage Co. was home from Augusta, where he had been in the interest of the herring seiners of this vicinity. He admitted an agreement had been reached between the seiners and the weirmen, but said that the terms of this agreement are not yet to be announced. He admitted, however, that the herring industry in Casco bay will continue just as it has in the past and that seining will be allowed here as it always is. Should the small fish strike in here in as large numbers as they did last fall, then the chances are good that Portland may yet have the bulk of the state's herring catch.